



Experts agree that a major disaster, such as an earthquake, will affect the Orange County area sometime in the future. Recent disasters have shown that emergency services resources will be depleted to the extent that some individuals or neighborhoods will need to rely on themselves during the first few days following a major disaster. Citizens trained to respond to emergencies can make a difference by saving lives and protecting property.

Six west-county cities (Buena Park, Cypress, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, and Westminster) along with the Orange County Fire Authority are offering a training program for citizens to learn and practice disaster preparedness.

The program is called **CERT - Community Emergency Response Team**

The CERT program is designed to prepare citizens to help themselves, their family, their neighbors, and their community in case of an emergency or major disaster. CERT training is available to everyone: residents, businesses, churches, civic groups, etc.

The curriculum consists of: Home preparedness, Fire suppression, Hazardous materials safety, Disaster medical operations, Search and rescue, Terrorism awareness, Disaster psychology, and CERT team organization. The course is a fun, hands-on, course that allows each individual to practice and test their skills. Each participant is encouraged to assemble their own Disaster Safety Kit which can be utilized while taking the class. Upon completion of the course, CERT participants will receive a certificate of completion.

If you are interested in attending the next West-County CERT course, please call or email your local CERT coordinator to receive an application or visit Westminster's website at <http://www.ci.westminster.ca.us> or the West County CERT website at www.westcountycert.com.

City of Buena Park / Aaron France / (714) 562-3554
afrance@buenapark.com

City of Cypress / Gael Locklin / (714) 229-6625
glocklin@ci.cypress.ca.us

City of La Palma / Raul Morales / (714) 690-3386
rmorales@cityoflapalma.org

City of Los Alamitos / Rick Moore / (562) 431-2255 x445
rmoore@ci.los-alamitos.ca.us

City of Seal Beach-Rossmoor / Todd De Voe / (562) 799-4100 x1145
tdevoe@ci.seal-beach.ca.us

City of Westminster / Rebecca Barlow / (714) 898-3315 x330
RBarlow@Westminster-ca.gov